

REMARKS

This communication is responsive to the Official Action dated October 21, 2008 and containing a restriction requirement. Action contends that the application contains claims directed to more than one species, and that unity of invention is lacking. Specifically, the Action states that Species I corresponds to FIGs. 13-15C and that Species II corresponds to FIGs. 4-7.

Applicant hereby elects Species I, with traverse. Claims 1-10 read upon the elected Species, and at least claims 1 and 2 are generic to both Species I and II. Non-elected claims 11-13 have been withdrawn from consideration, as required, and without prejudice.

The restriction requirement is traversed. Although the various claims are all patentably distinct, Applicant submits that the requisite undue burden that would be presented in examining all of the pending claims has not been established and is absent for at least several of the claim groups. The claims in respective Groups I-II share common technical features as recited in at least independent claim 1. Additionally, it is believed that the search and consideration of all of these claims could be conducted concurrently.

Applicant reserves the right of rejoinder of the non-elected claims upon the allowance of a generic or linking claim, as well as the filing of divisional applications for any non-elected claims.

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and requests early and favorable action in this regard. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative, if desired, to further the prosecution of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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